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THE 31ST CENTURY SPACE LANES, FAR FROM EARTH
THE SCIENCE POLICE AREN'T FAR BEHIND--IF WE WANT TO CAPTURE ZARYAN, MOVE FAST!
ULTRA BOY
AKA: JO NAH
HOMEWORLD: RIMBOR
ABILITIES: ABLE TO USE ONE POWER AT A TIME: ULTRA-VISION, STRENGTH, SPEED, OR INVULNERABILITY
COSMIC BOY
AKA: ROKK KRINN
HOMEWORLD: BRAAL
ABILITIES: MAGNETISM MANIPULATION
SUN BOY
AKA: DIRK MORGNA
HOMEWORLD: EARTH
ABILITIES: SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION AND MANIPULATION
SATURN GIRL
AKA: IMRA ARDEEN
HOMEWORLD: TITAN
ABILITIES: TELEPATHY
LIGHTNING LAD
AKA: GARTH RANZZ
HOMEWORLD: WINATH
ABILITIES: ELECTRICAL GENERATION AND DIRECTION
WHISPERS OF DOOM
PAUL LEVITZ Writer
KEVIN SHARPE Penciller
MARLO ALQUIZA Inker
SAL CIPRIANO Letterer
BLOND Colorist
SCOTT CLARK & DAVID BEATY Cover
SEAN RYAN Assoc. Editor
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM Editor

GOOD TIP YOU YANKED FROM THAT DIM-STAR THUG THE S.P.'S HAD CAUGHT, SATURN GIRL.
WHAM
THANKS.
KRAKKL
THIS ONE IS PERSONAL.
YOU-- SLEEP!
THUMP

DOOR'S OPEN, LEGIONNAIRES!
CAN YOU "READ" ZARYAN INSIDE, SATURN GIRL?
SPROING
THAT DIDN'T WORK LAST TIME--LET ME TAKE POINT!
I DON'T MAKE THE *SAME* MISTAKE TWICE, SUN BOY--
--I'LL FIND ZARYAN IF HE'S ABOARD!

THERE-- THE COMMAND MODULE'S THROUGH THAT WALL--
--AND SOMEONE'S THINKING ABOUT ZARYAN--CAN'T TELL IF IT'S HIM OR NOT.
ALLOW ME--
--BREACHED, ZARYAN AND--
THEY'RE ON YOUR BRIDGE, WAPHAN, YOU FOOL!
WHUMP
UNHHH...

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YOU LEGIONNAIRES ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN I THOUGHT. PERHAPS INSTEAD OF INTERFERING WITH ME, YOU'D BE WILLING TO SHARE IN THE PROFITS FROM MY RAIDS?
YOU THINK EVERYONE CAN BE BOUGHT, ZARYAN--
--BUT ALL THIS GIRL WANTS IS YOU IN A SCIENCE POLICE CELL!
BLEEP
WITH THIS, MAYBE I CAN GET IT.
DID YOU GET A TRACE ON THEIR COMMUNICATIONS?
BETTER--ZARYAN DIDN'T TRUST HIS OWN MEN MUCH, SO HE WAS JUST BEAMING THEM COORDINATES FOR THEIR NEXT RENDEZVOUS--
--AND THE NAVIGATION CHIP'S STILL WARM FROM RECEIVING THEM!
EASIER THAN READING MINDS.
EVEN WITHOUT TELEPATHY, I BET I CAN READ YOURS...

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STILL ARMED. STILL DANGEROUS. STILL GOT IT.
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YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON HERE--
--AS SOON AS BRAINY DELIVERED ME FOR MY REGULAR VISIT, P.G., HE WENT RACING OFF TO THE SPACEPORT LIKE HE'D SEEN A GHOST.
HE'S TOO "RATIONAL" FOR GHOSTS, SILLY BOY. MISSION DUTY, I GUESS.
PHANTOM GIRL
AKA: TINVA WAZZO
HOMEWORLD: BEZTL
ABILITIES: INTANGIBILITY
SUPERBOY
AKA: KAL-EL
HOMEWORLD: KRYPTON
ABILITIES: SUPER-STRENGTH, SPEED, SENSES, FLIGHT, INVULNERABILITY
COSMIC BOY DID ASK ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE IMMATERIAL, THOUGH.
HUH?
IT'S BEEN A LITTLE--WEIRD AROUND THE CLUBHOUSE LATELY.
SOME OF THE LEGIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN HEARING... VOICES...

BEING MYSELF
GETTING MESSED UP IS NOT my THING.
PASSING
SAYING STUPID STUFF, looking like a FOOL. THAT'S NOT ME.
BOOZE. WEED.
I WALK THROUGH THE HALLS FEELING GOOD KEEPING MY HEAD UP, HAPPY BEING myself
I'VE GOT NOTHING TO HIDE.

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IT'S PROBABLY ONLY ECHOES FROM THE *CONSTRUCTION CREWS*. BUT A COUPLE OF THE TEAM WERE *NERVOUS*.
YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN INVISIBLE KID DROPPING LAB GLASSWARE!
I DON'T GET IT.
ME EITHER-- BUT I'M MORE *COMPORTABLE* IN AMBIGUOUS SITUATIONS THAN EARTHERS.
DO YOU WANT TO SEE HOW THE *PERSONAL QUARTERS* ARE SHAPING UP? I'M SO HAPPY TO BE GETTING OUT OF THE SCIENCE POLICE DORMS WE WERE USING!
UHH. NO THANKS.
I-I HAVE TO FINISH SOMETHING I PROMISED TO DO AT THE SUPERMAN MUSEUM.
UH-HUH. HAVE FUN...
...I'LL GO BACK TO *GHOST HUNTING*.

HUNTING SHOULD BE RICH ON NALTOR, ZARYAN--BUT ARE WE READY WITHOUT WARTHAN'S SHIP AND CREW?
THEY'RE SERVING THEIR PURPOSE, KEEPING THE SCIENCE POLICE OCCUPIED.
BY THE TIME THOSE MILITARY BUREAUCRATS HAVE GOTTEN ANY USEFUL INFORMATION FROM THE CAPTIVES--
--WE'LL HAVE NALTOR'S TREASURES IN OUR HOLDS.
DOZENS OF SCIENCE POLICE CRUISERS WERE WAITING! IT LOOKS LIKE EVERY S.P. ON NALTOR!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?!

NO MATTER-- IT'S ONLY THE NALTORIANS.
WE CAN GET PAST THEM.
LEGIONNAIRES--?! IMPOSSIBLE!

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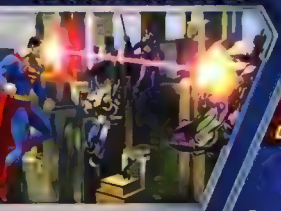

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ONE OF THE BATTLE CRUISERS IS BREAKING AWAY-- ULTRA BOY!
WHOOSH
ON IT, LEADER MAN.
SWITCH TO YOUR SPEED-- THEY'LL NEVER TOUCH WITH A BLAST--
-BEEEEP-- BYOW!
ZZAP
GOT 'IM, COS!
KRACKOOOM
YOU OKAY?
NOTHING A MEDICENTER CAN'T HANDLE. I THINK-- THANKS.

PUSH THE ENGINES FASTER--THE LEGIONNAIRE IS *GAINING!*
WHUMP
DAMN!
ANOTHER NANO AND I'D HAVE *HAD* THEM!

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THEY ARE OUR DARK SWORD, CHILD, BUT I DO NOT KNOW IF THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT.
THESE LEGIONNAIRES...THEY ARE A POWERFUL NEW FORCE FOR PEACE AMONG THE UNITED PLANETS
FOR A SECOND, I SAW MYSELF, OLDER, AMONG THEM.
SOMETIMES IT IS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE BETWEEN A PRESENTIMENT AND A HOPE, CHILD, ESPECIALLY FOR ONE SO YOUNG...
OHHH...
NURA!
THE INVADERS WILL TAKE NOTHING FROM THE SPIRES OF THE DREAMING CITY TODAY, NURA NAL, THANKS TO YOUR PRECOGNITION.
COULD OUR SCIENCE POLICE HAVE STOPPED THEM BY THEMSELVES, HIGH SEER?

AN ABDUCTION
WON'T PREVENT IT.
THE EVENT
WHAT WILL YOU BELIEVE?
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BEREN--WAS SHE HURT? I DIDN'T FORESEE--
NONE OF US SAW RISK TO YOUNG NURA, AND THERE IS NONE.
HER GIFT SIMPLY TAKES HER THIS WAY ON OCCASION...NOT THE GENTLEST SIGHT AMONG US, BUT AS WE SAW TODAY, ONE OF THE MOST ACCURATE. CHILD...
OHHH...
I...I SAW THE LEGIONNAIRES' FUTURE, HIGH SEER, AND THE INVADER WAS IN IT AS WELL.
FOCUS, NURA NAL, AND HOLD THE FLEETING IMAGE.
THINK OF ALL THE DETAIL YOU CAN RECALL.
I...I CAN'T SEE CLEARLY, SIR...
...BUT I THINK I SAW A LEGIONNAIRE DIE

DO YOU KNOW WHEN OR WHERE THEY WILL BE AT RISK?
I...I COULDN'T SEE. I COULDN'T EVEN TELL *WHO* IT WAS--I ONLY SAW THE LEGION RING ON A SHADOWY FIGURE IN DEADLY *PAIN.*
THE LEGIONNAIRES HAVE ALREADY DEPARTED, HIGH SEER.
PERHAPS THEY ARE PURSUING THE INVADER.
PERHAPS. REGARDLESS, THEY MUST BE WARNED.
WE CANNOT TRUST THIS TO OPEN COMMUNICATION LINES.
QUOTHYN, GET ONE OF OUR CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE CAPSULES--THE ONES WE SEND TO OUR AGENTS ON OTHER WORLDS.
YOU WILL RECALL EVERYTHING YOU CAN OF YOUR PROPHECY, NURA, AND WRITE IT DOWN.
AND WE WILL HOPE IT REACHES LEGION HEADQUARTERS IN *TIME.*

IT SAYS SUPERMAN DIED FIGHTING DOOMSDAY.
I DIED.
YOU HAVE TO DIE. AND IT'S BETTER TO GO OUT FIGHTING...
BUT IT'S TOO WEIRD TO KNOW I'M GOING TO DIE FIGHTING HIM.
I AM SO NOT LOOKING AT THE DATE.
SATURN GIRL'S TELEPATHIC COMMAND MAKES SURE I FORGET WHAT I LEARN ABOUT MY LIFE WHILE I'M IN THE FUTURE.
BUT THIS IS ONE TIME I CAN'T WAIT FOR IT TO KICK IN. BRRR..
SO SOME
HUH...?
WHO'S THERE?

THE PRESIDENT
CAN'T STOP IT.
THE EVENT
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NO ONE?
MAYBE THE GHOST FROM LEGION HEADQUARTERS *FOLLOWED* ME HERE?
HELLO?
TOTALLY CREEPY. ALL THESE **MONSTERS** I'M GOING TO HAVE TO FIGHT...
OR DIE FIGHTING
GO HOME...

I'M HOME. THE FUTURE NEEDS YOU TO LIVE
YOU CAN STAY HERE.
HUH?
WHOEVER YOU ARE, I'M OUT OF HERE.
THIS IS WAY TOO BIZARRE.
PHANTOM GIRL AND I NEED TO HAVE A TALK ABOUT GHOST HUNTING.

AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THE GHOST HAS SPOKEN TO SO DIRECTLY, SUPERBOY.
BRAINIAC 5
AKA QUEARL DOX
HOMEWORLD COLU
ABILITIES 12TH LEVEL SUPER-INTELLIGENCE
LUCKY ME.
I'D LIKE TO STAY AND MAKE HIM EAT HIS WHISPER.
NO. NOT POSSIBLE.
WE HAVE TO SYNCHRONIZE THESE TRIPS CAREFULLY... CAN'T UPSET TIME ITSELF. THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN YOU MUST BE IN YOUR CENTURY.
YOU HAVE TO GO HOME UNTIL YOUR NEXT SCHEDULED VISIT.
I'M NO COWARD.

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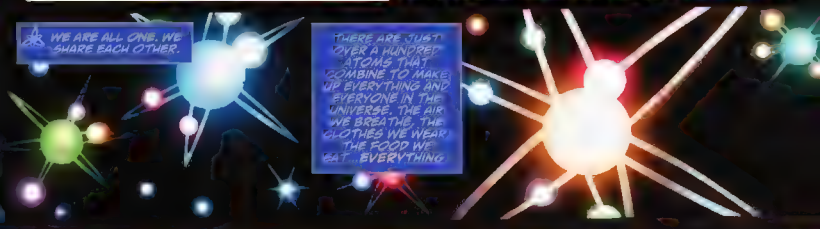
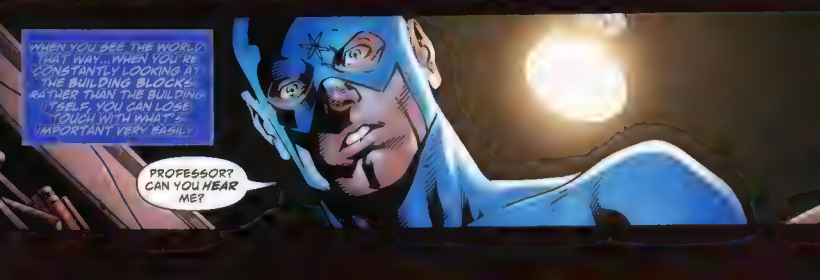
NO ONE COULD *EVER* ACCUSE YOU OF THAT.
BESIDES, YOU'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
AND NEXT TIME, WE'LL EVEN HAVE A *NEW LEADER*--
REALLY?
COSMIC BOY DECIDED WITH HIS INJURY IT'S A PROPITIOUS TIME TO STEP DOWN
OVERDUE, I'D SAY.
OH, BRAINY!
GOOD. AT LEAST *YOU'LL* BE SAFE.
NEXT: THE LEGION GO TO *Smallville!*

The Atom
Nucleus
Part 3: We Are All Atoms

Jeff Lemire Writer
Mahmud Asrar Penciller
John Dell Inker
Sal Cipriano Letterer Pete Pantazis Colorist
Sean Ryan Assoc. Editor Brian Cunningham Editor
The Ray Palmer Atom created by Gardner Fox


WE ARE ALL ONE. WE SHARE EACH OTHER.
THERE ARE JUST OVER A HUNDRED ATOMS THAT COMBINE TO MAKE UP EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IN THE UNIVERSE. THE AIR WE BREATHE. THE CLOTHES WE WEAR. THE FOOD WE EAT... EVERYTHING

AND ALMOST EVERYTHING IN EXISTENCE IS A DIFFERENT COMBINATION OF ONLY A VERY FEW OF THESE ATOMS. CARBON, HYDROGEN, OXYGEN, AND NITROGEN.


WHEN YOU SEE THE WORLD THAT WAY... WHEN YOU'RE CONSTANTLY LOOKING AT THE BUILDING BLOCKS RATHER THAN THE BUILDING ITSELF, YOU CAN LOSE TOUCH WITH WHAT'S IMPORTANT VERY EASILY.
PROFESSOR? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

BEEN MY ANCHOR. WHEN I GET TOO FAR INTO MY OWN HEAD... WHEN I START LOOKING TOO CLOSELY AT THINGS THAT I LOSE TOUCH...AL HYATT WAS ALWAYS THERE TO PULL ME BACK OUT.
AND NOW SOMEONE HAS ATTACKED HIM TO GET TO ME. THIS IS MY FAULT. I SHOULD HAVE MOVED HIM TO A SAFE PLACE THE MOMENT THIS ALL STARTED. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THEY WOULD COME FOR HIM NEXT. SHOULD'VE TAKEN PRECAUTIONS...
MY FAULT... MY FAULT.
STUHH..
SWEET
PROFESSOR, IT'S ME. IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY. WHO DID THIS TO YOU?
ST--STILL...
STILL...? STILL WHAT, PROFESSOR?
STILL HERE!

A DESPERATE ACT
WILL START IT.
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DR. PALMER, PLEASE STAND DOWN...WE ONLY WANT TO TALK!
TALK?! YOU ATTACKED AN INNOCENT OLD MAN, IN HIS HOME...BUT YOU JUST WANT TO TALK?!
WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, BUT WE WILL IF WE HAVE TO!
ACK!
HEY!
HURT ME? AMATEURS. I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR YEARS, AND THEY THINK THEY CAN JUST WALK IN HERE AND TAKE ME?

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...OR WHY YOU'RE DOING THIS, BUT IT ENDS HERE!
PLEASE! WE NEED YOUR HELP. SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE PROTOTYPES WE TOOK. THEY...
ARRGH! WHITE...UNNGH... MMATTTERR...
OH GOD!

URRGH!
RAYMOND!
NOOO--
PAFF
...WHAT ON EARTH JUST HAPPENED?
I...I'M NOT SURE. THEIR BODIES COULDN'T HANDLE SHRINKING... BECAME UNSTABLE
THEIR BELTS WERE FAULTY...

WHITE DWARF MATTER.
WHAT?
THEY SHOT ME UP WITH SODIUM AMYTAL...TRUTH SERUM. THEY WERE ASKING ME ALL KINDS OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE METEOR...THE ONE THAT GAVE YOU THE WHITE DWARF MATTER YOU USED TO MAKE YOUR BELTS.
OF COURSE I KNEW NOTHING... BUT THEY TRASHED THE PLACE ANYWAY...THEN YOU SHOWED UP.
MY STOLEN PROTOTYPE BELTS...THEY WERE ABLE TO REPLICATE THE BASIC TECH, BUT COULDN'T MAKE THEM STABLE WITHOUT THE WHITE DWARF MATTER.
MY GOD, RAYMOND...IF THEY KNEW THE BELTS WERE FAULTY, BUT USED THEM ANYWAY...WHAT KIND OF MEN ARE THESE?
THE KIND WHO CAN NEVER GET THEIR HANDS ON THAT METEOR.
YES. YOU WERE RIGHT NEVER TO TELL ME WHERE YOU KEEP THE LEFTOVER FRAGMENTS.

THEY'LL NEVER FIND IT...THAT'S ONE THING I'M CERTAIN OF. BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE WHAT HAPPENED HERE ANY LESS TROUBLING.
THESE PEOPLE... THE COLONY...THEY WANT TO MASS-PRODUCE MY SHRINK TECH. COULD YOU IMAGINE WHAT AN ARMY WITH MY ABILITIES COULD DO?
PROFESSOR... DID THEY COME THROUGH THAT PHONE?
YES... I ADMIT I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU AT FIRST
I'M TIRED OF WAITING. TIRED OF WAITING TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT. I NEED TO TAKE THIS TO THEM. STOP IT NOW BEFORE MORE ONES ELSE GETS HURT.

DR. PALMER! LONG TIME NO SEE.
ORACLE...I HATE TO BOTHER YOU AGAIN, BUT I NEED ANOTHER FAVOR...WELL, THREE FAVORS ACTUALLY.
I SOMETIMES WONDER WHAT YOU GUYS DID BEFORE I SHOWED UP?
I DON'T KNOW... BUT BELIEVE ME, I'M SURE GLAD YOU'RE HERE. FOR A GUY WHO SURFS DATA LINES, YOU'RE QUICKLY BECOMING MY GO-TO GAL.
DR. PALMER, ARE YOU FLIRTING WITH ME?
BELIEVE ME-- IF I WERE FLIRTING WITH YOU, YOU'D KNOW IT. I JUST WATCHED TWO MEN EXPLODE-- FLIRTING IS THE LAST THING ON MY MIND.
I WON'T EVEN ASK. SO WHAT DO YOU NEED?
FIRST, I NEED YOU TO REVERSE-TRACK THE LAST CALL TO PROFESSOR HYATT'S LINE.
DONE. NEXT?
NEXT I NEED A SAFE HOUSE FOR THE PROFESSOR. I CAN'T RISK HIS BEING HURT AGAIN. AND AFTER THAT, I NEED YOU TO CONTACT AN OLD FR.END FOR ME...

ORACLE COMES THROUGH AGAIN...I'M HEADED BACK TO WHEREVER THE DEAD COLONY AGENTS CAME FROM. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO EXPECT.
THE MOST TROUBLING ASPECT OF ALL OF THIS IS UNCLE DAVE. HOW COULD A MAN I HAVEN'T SEEN IN A DOZEN YEARS POSSIBLY BE INVOLVED IN ANY OF THIS?
AND WHO OR WHAT THE HELL IS THE COLONY, ANYWAY?

B A M !

Knight and Squire are a perfect example of what makes DC great. Introduced as a duo in the 1950s but revitalized by **Grant Morrison** in the late 1990s, they are every inch a British Batman and Robin. But beyond the similarities between the two teams, we felt Knight and Squire had a lot of unique attributes that we should explore, not the least of which is their geographic location and heritage. So when approaching the limited series, we wanted to show just how British this British Dynamic Duo could be! **Paul Cornell** has more than delivered, with scripts that are entertaining, fun, action-packed, and of course, **very** British, much to my occasional bewilderment. I received the first script only to have to respond, "Could you please translate some of this slang for me?" The resulting document started off, "Not safe for work. Which is a pity, considering you're at work," and the rest made me laugh until I cried. It then made its way around the DC offices rather quickly.

It's thanks to Paul's sense of humor that not only are the stories contained within the Knight and Squire limited series great, but also you'll be seeing an additional text page at the end of every issue explaining certain…Britishisms…that he uses. We wanted to make sure the issues were fun and approachable for fans from anywhere, without losing any of the flavor of Knight and Squire. I don't think it's too bold a statement to say that when reading an issue of Knight and Squire, you feel as though you're a part of their community, even if you don't get all the jokes (and if you really want to know, you can check out the last page for help!).

This quest for maintaining the integrity of the characters and their culture went even further than Paul's hilarious and entertaining scripts. We searched high and low for exactly the right artist, and we found him in **Jimmy Broxton**. His art is dynamic and detailed while working perfectly with the tone of Paul's scripts. Add in main series covers by **Yanick Paquette** and **Michel Lacombe**, and it's a grand slam. But wait! What's this art here, you ask? Well, that would be the pencils of the beautiful variant cover for issue 1, by the awesome **Billy Tucci**. Now that's aces.

—**Janelle Siegel**, Assistant Editor

DC NATION

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